

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A circuit ~~(10, 30)~~ for providing test and/or monitoring access to at least two telecommunication lines ~~[(18),]~~ comprising at least one bus (12) and at least two primary branches (14) extending ~~there from~~ therefrom, at least one of the primary branches (14) being provided with at least one switch ~~[(26, 34),]~~ which in a first state connects the primary branch (14) with the bus (12) and in a second state connect the primary branch (14) with ground.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~The circuit in accordance with~~ A circuit according to claim 1 wherein at least one primary branch (14) comprises at least two secondary branches (20), at least one of the secondary branches (20) being provided with a switch ~~[(24),]~~ which, in a first state, connects the secondary branch (20) with the primary branch (14).
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The circuit in accordance with claim 1 or 2~~ A circuit according to claim 1 comprising at least two buses ~~(12a, 12b)~~, at least one of the primary branches being constituted by at least two sub-branches ~~(14a, 14b)~~, each of these ~~the~~ sub-branches ~~(14a, 14b)~~ being connected with one bus ~~(12a, 12b)~~, and least one switch (28) being provided for connecting a telecommunication line (18) with a selected one of the buses ~~(12a, 12b)~~.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The circuit in accordance with any of the preceding claims~~ A circuit according to claim 1 wherein at least one switch is a relay ~~(26, 22, 28)~~.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~The circuit in accordance with any of the preceding claims~~ A circuit according to claim 1 wherein at least one switch ~~(26, 22, 28)~~ is remotely controllable.
6. (Currently Amended) A system comprising at least one circuit ~~in accordance with any of the preceding claims~~ according to claim 1 and at least one test ~~and/or~~ or measurement device.
7. (Currently Amended) A method of providing test ~~and/or~~ or monitoring access to a telecommunication line (18), the method ~~involving~~ including a circuit ~~(10, 30)~~ comprising at least one bus (12) and at least two primary branches (14) extending from the bus (12) to a

telecommunication line (18) ~~each, the~~ each of the primary branches (14) being, in an initial state, connected with ground, the method comprising the step of connecting only that primary branch ~~[[14),]]~~ through which access to a telecommunication line ~~[[18]]~~ is to be established~~[[,]]~~ with the bus (12).

8. (Currently Amended) The method ~~in accordance with~~ according to claim 7 wherein at least one primary branch (14) comprises at least two secondary branches (20), the secondary branches (20) being, in an initial state, disconnected from the primary branch (14), the method comprising the step of connecting only that secondary branch ~~[[20),]]~~ through which access to a telecommunication line is to be established~~[[,]]~~ with the primary branch (14).

9. (Currently Amended) The method ~~in accordance with claim 7 or 8~~ according to claim 7 wherein at least one switch (26, 22) is remotely controlled.

10. (Currently Amended) The method ~~in accordance with one of claims 6 to 9~~ according to claim 6 wherein the test serves to locate an open line.

11. (Currently Amended) The method ~~in accordance with one of claims 6 to 9~~ according to claim 6 wherein the test serves to measure at least one physical parameter~~[[s,]]~~ selected from the group consisting of ~~such as~~ voltage, frequency-dependent voltage~~[[, or]]~~ and interfering voltage~~[[s]]~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The method ~~in accordance with one of claims 6 to 9~~ according to claim 6 wherein the test serves to measure a response of the line to specific~~[[,]]~~ emitted signals.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of retro-fitting an existing test ~~and/or~~ or monitoring system, comprising the steps of:

- a) disconnecting at least one existing circuit for providing test ~~and/or~~ or monitoring access, and
- b) connecting at least one circuit for providing test ~~and/or~~ or monitoring access in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) The method ~~in accordance with~~ according to claim 13 further comprising the step of retro-fitting the existing test ~~and/or~~ or monitoring system with at least one test ~~and/or~~ or measurement device.